

EMETER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
PORT MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR

1957



EXETER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY
PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION - 1957.



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 1957, and I am pleased to report also that no cases of Infectious Diseases occurred on board any of the ships coming into this port.

As in the previous years, a close watch has been kept on ships to determine the presence of rats but no evidence of rat infestation came to light; in fact during the year it has only been found possible to obtain one specimen of a rat for bacteriological examination by the Laboratory.

In general the standard of cleanliness of the shipping entering the port has been satisfactory, and it has not been necessary to take any action in regard to sanitary defects.

The total nett registered tonnage entering the port has fallen this year from 54,775 in 1956 to 50,654 in the year under review. Whilst there has been a slight rise in the tonnage entering Exmouth Harbour (27,367 nett registered tons) the shipping entering Exeter Basin has fallen slightly to 23,287 nett registered tons.

With regard to ships from foreign ports, there has been a slight increase in the total nett registered tonnage from 7,671 in 1956 to 7,963 this last year. The foreign shipping entering Exmouth Harbour has decreased slightly, but the nett registered tonnage entering Exeter basin has increased slightly, as will be seen from Table C (1) (b).

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and members of the Exeter Port Health Authority for their continued help and support and especially for permitting me to attend the Annual Meeting of the Air Port and Sea Port Health Authorities which was held in Bristol. I should also like to thank all members of the staff for their wholehearted co-operation shown to me during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

L.G. ANDERSON,

Port Medical Officer.

TABLE A

NAME OF OFFICER	NATURE OF APPOINTMENT.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	QUALIFICATIONS	ANY OTHER APPOINTMENTS
Dr. L.G. Anderson	Port Medical Officer	1.8.1948	M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health: Exmouth U.D.C. Budleigh Salterton U.D.C. St. Thomas R.D.C. Asst. County Medical Officer, Devon County Council.
Dr. D.L.H. Moore	Deputy Port Medical Officer	1.4.1941	B.A., M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O.	General Medical Practitioner.
Mr. F.G. Davies	Port Health Inspector (Exeter Basin)	1.4.1946	F.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I. (Meat & Other Foods Cert.)	Senior Public Health Inspector, Exeter City Council.
Mr. D.R. Redgwell	Port Health Inspector (Exmouth Harbour)	22.1.1951	M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (Meat & Other Foods Cert). (Smoke Inspectors Certificate.)	Public Health Inspector Exmouth U.D.C.
Mr. K.C. Benham	Port Health Inspector (Topsham Quay)	1.4.1953	Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I	Chief Public Health Inspector and Acting Surveyor.

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SECTION II - AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT
DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B

SHIPS FROM	NUMBER	TONNAGE	NUMBER INSPECTED		NUMBER OF SHIPS REPORTED AS HAVING HAD, DURING THE VOYAGE, INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON BOARD.
			BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	
Foreign Ports	52	7,963	13	52	-
Coastwise	300	42,691	-	282	-
Total	352	50,654	13	334	-

SECTION III - CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

PASSENGER TRAFFIC	Number of Passengers INWARD	Nil
	Number of Passengers OUTWARD	Nil
CARGO TRAFFIC	Principal IMPORTS	1. Petrol 2. Coal 3. Cement 4. Timber
	Principal EXPORTS	Applies, Spent Oxide, Stone.
	FOREIGN	Appingadam, Fredericksund Gothenburg Hamina.
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive.	COASTWISE	London Southampton Keadby Aberdeen Gocle Pole.

TABLE C (1)

Table showing Annual tonnage of shipping entering the Port () =
Number of ships.

(a) Refers to all ships entering the port.

Year	Lymouth (Harbour)	Exeter (Basin).	Topsham	Total
1949	19,174 (100)	17,559 (187)	-	36,733 (287)
1950	18,245 (91)	18,626 (197)	-	36,871 (288)
1951	19,986 (95)	19,299 (214)	-	39,285 (309)
1952	22,198 (106)	20,332 (204)	-	42,530 (310)
1953	24,950 (105)	24,212 (243)	304 (2)	49,466 (350)
1954	27,366 (117)	27,171 (276)	190 (1)	54,727 (394)
1955	33,856 (154)	28,643 (277)	178 (1)	62,677 (432)
1956	26,481 (121)	28,197 (285)	97 (1)	54,775 (407)
1957	27,367 (116)	23,287 (236)	-	50,654 (352)

(b) Refers to ships from foreign ports and included in (a) above.

Year	Exmouth (Harbour)	Exeter (Basin)	Topsham	Total
1949	3,651 (24)	687 (7)	-	4,338 (31)
1950	1,014 (6)	1,434 (16)	-	2,448 (22)
1951	819 (6)	2,399 (24)	-	3,218 (30)
1952	1,850 (11)	1,491 (14)	-	3,341 (25)
1953	2,780 (16)	2,206 (20)	118 (1)	5,104 (37)
1954	5,629 (28)	1,376 (13)	-	7,005 (41)
1955	9,293 (49)	2,630 (24)	178 (1)	12,101 (73)
1956	5,179 (33)	2,395 (25)	97 (1)	7,571 (54)
1957	5,082 (27)	2,831 (25)	-	7,963 (52)

SECTION IV - INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There are no barges which use this district.

SECTION V - WATER SUPPLY

- (1) Sources of supply for (a) the district and (b) shipping.
The water supplier serving the sanitary districts are used for the shipping at their respective wharfs viz:
 - (a) Exmouth Harbour - Exmouth Urban District Public supply.
 - (b) Exeter Basin - Exeter City Council Public supply.
 - (c) Topsham - St. Thomas R.D.C. Public supply to Topsham parish.
- (2) Reports of tests for contamination.

Routine regular tests are carried out by the responsible authorities viz: Exmouth U.D.C., St. Thomas R.D.C., and Exeter City Council. All these supplies are chlorinated and the bacteriological results were satisfactory.

- (3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes

The hydrants and hosepipes are regularly inspected by the Port Health Inspector. The hosepipes are stored under cover when not in use and are well flushed out prior to use.

- (4) Number and sanitary condition of water boats.

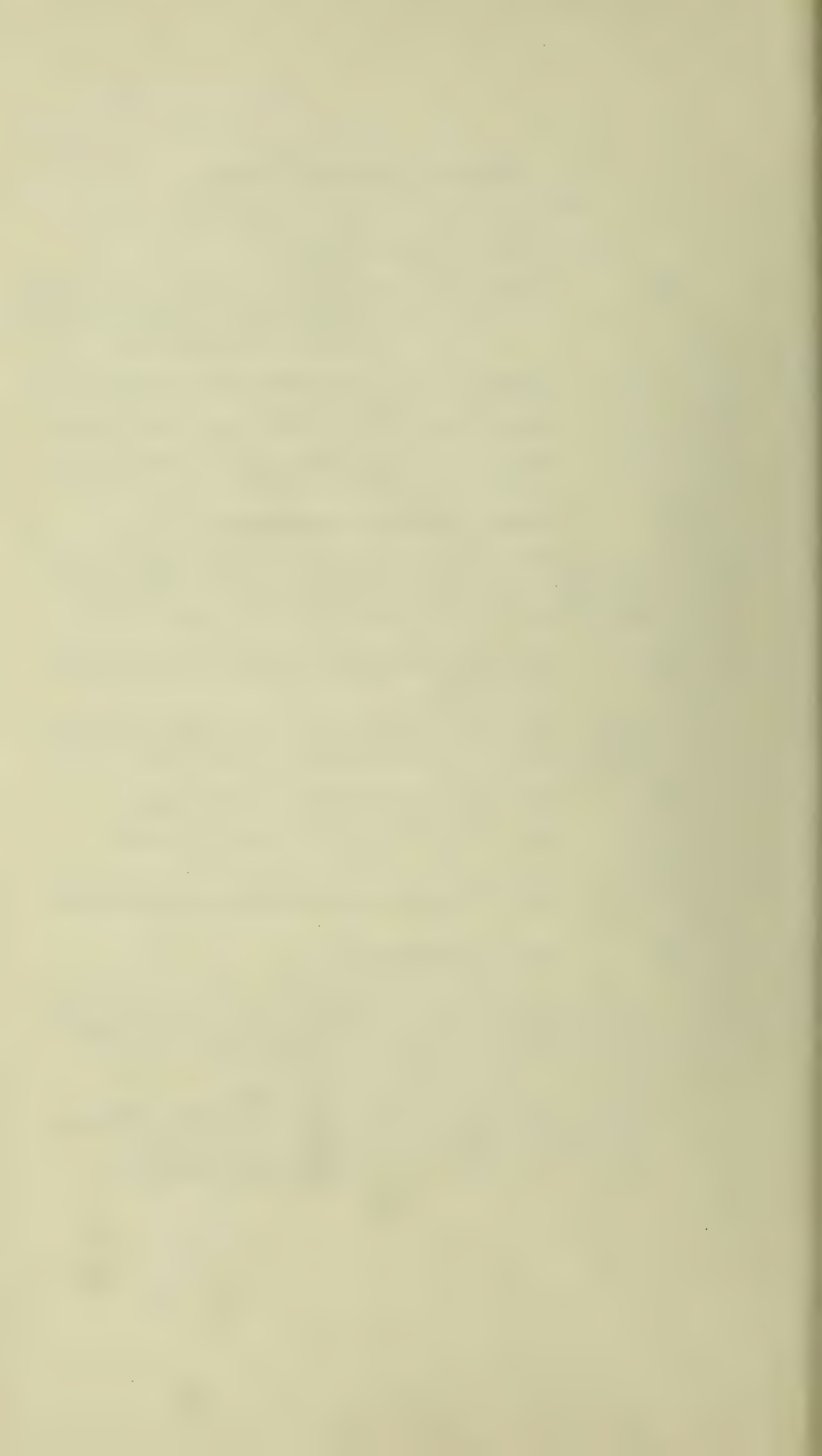
There are no water boats operating at this port.

SECTION VI - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS 1952

- (1) List of Infected Areas.

A copy of the list of infected areas supplied by the World Health Organisation, is prepared weekly at the office of the Port Medical Officer, Templetown Lodge, Esplanade, Exmouth and is forwarded by post to the following persons:-

- (1) Mr. S. Connor, Custom's Officer, Exmouth.
- (2) Mr. F.G. Davies, Port Health Inspector, Exeter Basin.
- (3) Mr. D.R. Rodgwell, Port Health Inspector, Exmouth Harbour.
- (4) Executive Officer, Exeter Airport, Honiton Clyst.
- (5) Mr. K.C. Benham, Port Health Inspector, Topsham Wharf.



(2) Radio Messages

- (a)
- Arrangements for sending permission, by radio, for ships to enter the district.

Arrangements have been made with the Post Office for sending Wireless Messages if required. None were sent during 1957.

- (b)
- Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon.

Arrangements have been made with the post office for receiving Wireless Messages if required. None were received during 1957.

(3) Notifications otherwise than by radio.

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

Arrangements have been made with the Post Office for the transmission of telegrams to the Port Medical Officer - none were received during the year.

A 24 hour watch is maintained at H.M. Coastguard Station Exmouth from which signals by morse or flag may be sent or received as and when necessary.

(4) Mooring Stations

- (a)
- Ships proceeding up the canal to Exeter Basin.

There are two buoys situated in that portion of the estuary of the River Exe known as the Bight to which all ships arriving from foreign ports make fast before boarding by H.M. Customs Officers.

- (b) Ships whose destination is Exmouth harbour may make fast either to the buoys, as above, or to the pier head, Exmouth.

Where action is to be taken under Regulations 22 - 30 (Regulations dealing with the control of Infectious Diseases), the ships will be made fast to one of the buoys situated in the Bight, as above.

(5) Arrangements for:

- (a)
- Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than Smallpox).

Patients suffering from infectious disease will be transferred by ambulance to the Infectious Disease hospital of the Regional Hospital Board at Winton, Exeter (Tel.No. Exeter 67158).

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts

Surveillance and follow up of contacts will be undertaken by the Port Medical Officer whilst the ship is within this district. Where the ship has to proceed to another port before the expiration of the period of surveillance, the contacts will be given letters to take to the Port Medical Officer of the next port of call informing him of the circumstances.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, person and clothing and other articles.

Disinfection of ships will, when necessary, be undertaken by the Port Health Inspector, the formaldehyde method being used. Disinfection of clothing or bedding may be carried out at the steam disinfectant station of the Exmouth Urban District Council or Exeter City Council.

Cleansing of verminous persons will be carried out by the Port Health Inspector on the ship itself and his clothing, bedding etc., removed to the steam disinfectant station at Exmouth or Exeter, as appropriate, for steam disinfection.

SECTION VII - SMALLPOX

- (1) The Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases will be sent from the district is "The Upton Pyne Smallpox Hospital" (5 miles from Exeter) Tel. No: Stoke Canon 207. The admission will be made through the Medical Officer of the Whipton Isolation Hospital, (Tel.No: Exeter 67158). The vaccination state of the Hospital staff is up to date.
- (2) The transport of cases of smallpox will be undertaken by a special infectious disease ambulance by arrangement with the Exeter City Ambulance Officer (Tel.No: Exeter 55485).
- (3) Consultants:

The following consultants are available as and when necessary:-

1. East Devon: Dr. E.J.G. Wallace, Tel. No.
Health Centre,
Westham Road, 1645 and 16
WEYMOUTH, Dorset. Home: Weymouth 1513
2. Cornwall & Devon to the River Exe
Dr. D.F. Johnstone, Plymouth 64311 & 61437
Isolation Hospital, Home: Plymouth 3358
PLYMOUTH.
3. Devon & Cornwall
Dr. W.A. Lister, Plymouth 5701
7, The Crescent, Home: Devonport 40
PLYMOUTH.

(4)

Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox

Specimens for laboratory diagnosis will be sent to the:

Virus Reference Laboratory,
Central Public Health Laboratory,
Colindale Avenue,
LONDON, N.W.9.

SECTION VIII - VENEREAL DISEASE

Masters of vessels are informed of the following arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements.

Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital:

Mondays: 19.00 hrs to 20.00 hrs.

Fridays: 14.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs.

SECTION IX - CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF SHIPS

TABLE D

Category	Disease	No. of cases during year		No. of Ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	-	-	-	-
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	-	-	-	-
Cases landed from other ships	-	-	-	-

SECTION X - OBSERVATIONS OF THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

No cases of malaria were notified.

SECTION XI - MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

No measures were necessary under this section.

SECTION XII - MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

- (1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats - Enquiries are made from masters of all vessels using the port concerned regarding the presence of rats, and the present, of signs of unusual mortality among the rats.

No evidence of rats was found on any ships entering the port during the year.

- (2) The bacteriological examination of rodents with special reference to rodent plague are carried out at the:-

Public Health Laboratory,
7, Dir's Field,
Exeter.

1 brown rat from the Exmouth dock area was sent for bacteriological examination during the year and the result was as follows:-

Post Mortem

Microscopic Examination - No abnormalities detected.

Microscopic Examination:-

Heart blood } No abnormalities detected.
Spleen }

Culture.

Heart blood } Past. pestis not isolated.
Spleen }

- (3) Deratting of ships

The Exeter Port Health Authority is not a recognised authority for this purpose. A ship requiring deratization would be referred to the port of Plymouth.

- (4) Progress of rat-proofing of ships

The general construction of the ships and nature of the cargo of the ships using this port are not conducive to rat breeding and other than efforts to maintain a high standard of cleanliness, no action appears necessary.

TABLE E

Rodents destroyed during the year
in ships from Foreign Ports

Category	Number
Black rats	Nil
Brown rats	Nil
Species not known	Nil
Sent for examination	Nil
Infected with plague	Nil

TABLE F

DERATTING CERTIFICATE AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES
ISSUED DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

In accordance with the Prevention of Damage by Pests Application to Shipping Order, 1951, six rodent control certificates were issued under the provisions of this Order. A charge of ten shillings for each certificate was made, as authorized by the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping), (Amendment No.2) Order, 1956. This money was paid immediately upon receipt to the Secretary of the Authority, Mr. L.E. Connett.

SECTION XIII - INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCESTABLE GInspection and Notices

Nature and Number of Inspections		Notices served		Result of serving Notices.
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Routine	347	-	-	-
TOTAL:	347	-	-	-

SECTION XIV- PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH)REGULATIONS 1934 and 1938

The Mussel Purification Works at Lymington has not been in operation during the year under review.

The Exe Shellfish Company, Exmouth, employ the method of sterilization by boiling under pressure and this has proved very satisfactory during the year, and of the 15 samples of Shellfish which were sent for bacteriological examination during the year, all were found to be satisfactory.

TABLE H

Nature of Specimen	Number of Samples.	Result, according to the Fishmongers' Company Standards.
Exe Shellfish Ltd.		
Mussels	6	Satisfactory
Cockles	9	Satisfactory

SECTION XV - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

This port is not approved for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI - MISCELLANEOUS

- (1) Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease

Such persons would be conveyed by the infectious disease ambulance to the mortuary at Wighton Isolation Hospital to await burial.

